



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 79

January Session, 2003

Substitute House Bill No. 6371

House of Representatives, March 27, 2003

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through REP. O'ROURKE of the 32nd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING ELECTION DAY AND EXTENDED VOTER REGISTRATION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 9-17 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) For the purposes of this section, "primary day" means the day
4 that a primary for state, district and municipal offices is being held in
5 accordance with section 9-423, and "election day" means the day of
6 each regular election. [(1)] The registrars of voters of each town shall
7 hold sessions to examine the qualifications of electors and admit those
8 found qualified on the dates and at the times set forth in this section.
9 Such sessions shall be held in the offices of the registrars of voters on
10 the following days during the hours indicated: [, except as provided in
11 subdivision (2) of this subsection:]

T1	Day	Hours
T2	[Fourteenth day	
T3	before primary day	any two hours between
T4		5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.]
T5	<u>Primary day.....</u>	<u>6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.</u>
T6	Saturday of third week	
T7	before election day	10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
T8	Fourteenth day	
T9	before election day	9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
T10	<u>Election day.....</u>	<u>6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.</u>

12 The session of the registrars of voters on the fourteenth day before
 13 election day shall be the last regular session for the admission of
 14 electors prior to an election [, as defined in subsection (y) of section 9-1.
 15 (2) No town having a population of less than twenty-five thousand
 16 persons shall be required to hold sessions for admission of electors on
 17 the fourteenth day before primary day] held in accordance with the
 18 provisions of section 9-20, as amended by this act. The sessions on
 19 primary day and election day shall be held in accordance with the
 20 provisions of section 3 of this act.

21 [(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a), the registrars
 22 of voters shall hold a limited session on the last week day before each
 23 regular election from nine o'clock a.m. to twelve o'clock noon for the
 24 purpose of admitting only those persons whose qualifications as to
 25 age, citizenship or residence in the municipality were attained after the
 26 last session for the admission of electors prior to an election. The
 27 registrars shall enter the names of those electors admitted at such
 28 limited session on the proper list, with their residences by street and
 29 numbers, if any, before one o'clock p.m. of such last week day before
 30 the election.]

31 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,
 32 the registrars shall hold sessions in their offices between the thirteenth
 33 and seventh days, inclusive, before election day to examine the

34 qualifications of electors and admit those found qualified in
35 accordance with the provisions of section 2 of this act. The registrars
36 shall post the hours of such sessions.

37 (c) In addition to the sessions held pursuant to subsections (a) and
38 (b) of this section, the registrars of voters in each town shall hold one
39 session each year, between the first of January and the last day of the
40 school year, at each public high school in such town, for the admission
41 of persons who are eligible for admission under subsection (a) or (b) of
42 section 9-12, provided, in the case of a public high school in a regional
43 school district, such session shall be held on a rotating basis by the
44 registrars of voters for each town which is a member of the regional
45 school district. The registrars of voters need not give notice of this
46 session by publication in a newspaper.

47 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The registrars of voters shall
48 examine the qualifications of electors at the sessions held between the
49 thirteenth and seventh days, inclusive, before the day of a regular
50 election, pursuant to section 9-17 of the general statutes, as amended
51 by this act, and admit those found qualified in accordance with the
52 provisions of section 9-20 of the general statutes, as amended by this
53 act, except that:

54 (1) Each applicant for admission shall present to the registrars a
55 preprinted form of identification that shows the applicant's name and
56 residence within the municipality in which the applicant is applying.
57 If the applicant does not have a preprinted form of identification that
58 includes a photograph of the applicant, the registrars shall provide for
59 a photograph of the applicant to be taken; and

60 (2) If the registrars admit the applicant as an elector, the registrars
61 shall attach to the elector's registration card a copy of the identification
62 presented by the elector and any such photograph taken of the elector,
63 until the registrars mail a confirmation of the elector's admission to the
64 elector's residential address and sufficient time passes to ensure
65 delivery of the confirmation by the United States Postal Service.

66 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The registrars of voters shall
67 examine the qualifications of electors at the session held on the day
68 that a primary for state, district and municipal offices is being held in
69 accordance with section 9-423 of the general statutes or the day of a
70 regular election, pursuant to section 9-17 of the general statutes, as
71 amended by this act, or on the day that a presidential preference
72 primary is held under section 9-464 of the general statutes, and admit
73 those found qualified in accordance with the provisions of section 9-20
74 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, except that:

75 (1) Each applicant for admission shall present to the registrars a
76 preprinted form of identification that shows the applicant's name and
77 residence within the municipality in which the applicant is applying.
78 If the applicant does not have a preprinted form of identification that
79 includes a photograph of the applicant, the registrars shall provide for
80 a photograph of the applicant to be taken;

81 (2) (A) In addition to the application for admission as an elector
82 submitted to the registrars of voters, the applicant shall also submit a
83 statement substantially as follows, which the applicant shall sign
84 under oath or affirmation:

85 I swear or affirm that:

86 1. I meet the eligibility requirements to be an elector as indicated on
87 today's application for admission as an elector;

88 2. I have not registered or voted this day in any other election
89 jurisdiction; and

90 3. I have read and understand the Warning Notice below to mean
91 that I can be convicted of perjury and imprisoned for not more than
92 five years or be fined not more than five thousand dollars, or both, if I
93 sign this statement knowing it to be false.

94SignatureDate

95 Warning Notice: If you sign this statement not believing it to be

96 true, you can be convicted of perjury and imprisoned for not more
97 than five years or be fined not more than five thousand dollars, or
98 both.

99 (B) All statements of the applicant shall be made under the penalties
100 of perjury pursuant to section 53a-156 of the general statutes. Any
101 applicant shall be guilty of perjury if the applicant intentionally makes
102 a false statement, under oath or affirmation, of a fact that the applicant
103 does not believe to be true;

104 (3) If the registrars admit the applicant as an elector, the registrars
105 shall give the elector a notice of acceptance, on a form as prescribed by
106 the Secretary of the State, that indicates the elector's voting district and
107 polling place. The registrars shall attach to such notice a copy of the
108 identification presented by the elector and any such photograph taken
109 of the elector. The registrar shall affix a permanent seal and signature
110 to the notice and such copies. The elector shall present such notice and
111 copies at the polling place to confirm the elector's eligibility to vote;

112 (4) The assistant registrars at a polling place shall add to the
113 supplementary list the name of each elector who presents a notice of
114 acceptance and copies of identification pursuant to subdivision (3) of
115 this section. The assistant registrars shall place the letters "ED" next to
116 the name of each such elector;

117 (5) If the registrars admit an applicant as an elector, the registrars
118 shall also attach a copy of the identification presented by the applicant
119 to the elector's registration card until the registrars mail a confirmation
120 of the elector's admission to the elector's residential address and
121 sufficient time passes to ensure delivery of the confirmation by the
122 United States Postal Service; and

123 (6) If the registrars admit an applicant as an elector and, upon
124 subsequent investigation in accordance with the National Voter
125 Registration Act of 1993, P.L. 103-31, cannot validate the applicant, the
126 registrars shall place the name of the applicant on the inactive registry
127 list and forward such name to the State Elections Enforcement

128 Commission.

129 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Secretary of the State, in
130 cooperation with the Registrars of Voters Association of Connecticut,
131 shall train persons to train registrars of voters concerning the
132 provisions of section 9-17 of the general statutes, as amended by this
133 act, and sections 2 and 3 of this act. After receiving such training,
134 registrars of voters shall train their deputies and assistants and other
135 election officials concerning said provisions.

136 Sec. 5. Section 9-1 of the general statutes is repealed and the
137 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

138 Except as otherwise provided, the following terms, as used in this
139 title and sections 3-124, 7-5, 7-6, 7-7, 7-17, 7-20, 7-39, 7-157, 7-214, 7-275,
140 7-295, 7-343, 7-407, 8-1, 8-5, 8-19, 10-219, 11-36, 13a-11, 30-10, 30-11, 45a-
141 18, 45a-19 and 51-95 shall have the following meanings:

142 (a) "Ballot label" means that portion of cardboard, paper or other
143 material placed on the front of the voting machine, containing the
144 names of the candidates or a statement of a proposed constitutional
145 amendment or other question or proposition to be voted on;

146 (b) "Board for admission of electors" means the board as composed
147 under subsection (a) of section 9-15a;

148 (c) "Clerical error" means any error in the registry list or enrollment
149 list due to a mistake or an omission on the part of the printer or a
150 mistake or omission made by the registrars or their assistants;

151 (d) "Election" means any electors' meeting at which the electors
152 choose public officials by use of voting machines or by paper ballots as
153 provided in sections 9-271 and 9-272;

154 (e) "Elector" means any person possessing the qualifications
155 prescribed by the Constitution and duly admitted to, and entitled to
156 exercise, the privileges of an elector in a town;

- 157 (f) Repealed by P.A. 77-298, S. 14;
- 158 (g) "Municipal clerk" means the clerk of a municipality;
- 159 (h) "Municipal election" means the regularly recurring election held
160 in a municipality at which the electors of the municipality choose
161 public officials of such municipality;
- 162 (i) "Municipality" means any city, borough or town within the state;
- 163 (j) "Official ballot" means the official ballot label to be used at an
164 election, or the official paper ballot to be used thereat in accordance
165 with the provisions of sections 9-271 and 9-272;
- 166 (k) "Population" means the population according to the last-
167 completed United States census;
- 168 (l) "Presidential electors" means persons elected to cast their ballots
169 for President and Vice President of the United States;
- 170 (m) "Print" means methods of duplication of words by mechanical
171 process, but shall not include typewriting;
- 172 (n) "Referendum" means (1) a question or proposal which is
173 submitted to a vote of the electors or voters of a municipality at any
174 regular or special state or municipal election, as defined in this section,
175 (2) a question or proposal which is submitted to a vote of the electors
176 or voters, as the case may be, of a municipality at a meeting of such
177 electors or voters, which meeting is not an election, as defined in
178 subsection (d) of this section, and is not a town meeting, or (3) a
179 question or proposal which is submitted to a vote of the electors or
180 voters, as the case may be, of a municipality at a meeting of such
181 electors or voters pursuant to section 7-7 or pursuant to charter or
182 special act;
- 183 (o) "Regular election" means any state or municipal election;
- 184 (p) "Registrars" means the registrars of voters of the municipality;

185 (q) "Registry list" means the list of electors of any municipality
186 certified by the registrars;

187 (r) "Special election" means any election not a regular election;

188 (s) "State election" means the election held in the state on the first
189 Tuesday after the first Monday in November in the even-numbered
190 years in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of
191 Connecticut;

192 (t) "State officers" means the Governor, Lieutenant Governor,
193 Secretary of the State, Treasurer, Comptroller and Attorney General;

194 (u) "Voter" means a person qualified to vote at town and district
195 meetings under the provisions of section 7-6;

196 (v) "Voting district" means any municipality, or any political
197 subdivision thereof, having not more than one polling place in a
198 regular election;

199 (w) "Voting machine" means a machine, including but not limited
200 to, a device which operates by electronic means, for the registering and
201 recording of votes cast at elections, primaries and referenda;

202 (x) "Write-in ballot" means a vote cast for any person whose name
203 does not appear on the official ballot as a candidate for the office for
204 which his name is written in. [;]

205 [(y) "The last session for admission of electors prior to an election"
206 means the day which is the fourteenth day prior to an election.]]

207 Sec. 6. Section 9-19b of the general statutes is repealed and the
208 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

209 (a) Except during the period [between the last session for the
210 admission of electors] beginning on the thirteenth day prior to an
211 election and ending on the day [following that] of the election, the
212 town clerk or assistant town clerk, during office hours and at the office
213 of such official, may examine the qualifications of any person applying

214 in person to be admitted as an elector and approve such application.

215 (b) Except during the period [between the last session for the
216 admission of electors] beginning on the thirteenth day prior to an
217 election and ending on the day [following that] of the election, either
218 registrar of voters, or a deputy registrar, assistant registrar or special
219 assistant registrar appointed in accordance with the provisions of
220 section 9-192, may examine the qualifications of any person applying
221 to be admitted as an elector in the town, in accordance with the
222 provisions of section 9-20, as amended by this act, and, except for
223 applications submitted pursuant to subdivision (4) of this subsection,
224 approve such application submitted in person (1) at the office of such
225 official; (2) at any enrollment session of the registrars of voters; (3) at
226 any public place; (4) at any time and at any place in the town, other
227 than a public place; or (5) at any public office of the Department of
228 Motor Vehicles, Labor Department or Department of Social Services
229 which is located in the town in which the registrar, deputy registrar,
230 assistant registrar or special assistant registrar serves, if written notice
231 of the date and time is given seven days in advance thereof to the
232 commissioner of such department. Upon receipt of a written notice
233 under subdivision (5) of this subsection, the commissioner of the
234 department may designate a portion of the public office which shall be
235 used for the admission of electors. The other registrar, or any deputy,
236 assistant or special assistant registrar, shall be permitted to be present
237 during the admission of any person pursuant to subdivisions (4) and
238 (5) of this subsection. Applications accepted and examined prior to the
239 [last session for admission of electors] fourteenth day prior to an
240 election pursuant to subdivision (4) of this subsection may be
241 approved after such [last session] fourteenth day. The admission of
242 any person pursuant to subdivision (4) shall be effective on the date
243 when both registrars approve such application. The registrar who
244 receives such application from the applicant shall give written notice
245 to the other registrar within one business day after such receipt and the
246 registrars shall forthwith act on such applications. No rejection of any
247 application under subdivision (4) of this subsection shall be effective
248 until the registrar has mailed to the other registrar and the applicant a

249 notice stating the reasons for the rejection. Any applicant whose
250 application is rejected may appeal under the provisions of section 9-
251 311.

252 (c) Such registrar, deputy, assistant or special assistant registrar
253 accepting applications in accordance with subdivision (4) of subsection
254 (b) of this section shall provide the applicant with a receipt. Upon
255 approval or disapproval of the application, the registrars shall send a
256 notice thereof by first-class mail with instructions on the envelope that
257 it be returned if not deliverable at the address shown thereon. If such
258 notice of approval is returned undeliverable, the registrars shall take
259 the necessary action in accordance with section 9-35 or 9-43.

260 (d) During the period [between the last session for the admission of
261 electors] beginning on the sixth day prior to an election and [the
262 opening of the limited session for the admission of electors held]
263 ending on the last weekday before such election, [under section 9-17,
264 the town clerk or assistant town clerk during office hours and at the
265 office of such official and] either registrar of voters or a deputy or
266 assistant registrar at the office of such official may, in accordance with
267 the provisions of section 9-20, as amended by this act, examine the
268 qualifications of any person applying in person to be admitted in such
269 town and approve the application of such person whose qualifications
270 as to age, citizenship or residence in the municipality were attained
271 [after such last session and on or before the last weekday prior to such
272 election] during such period.

273 Sec. 7. Section 9-19c of the general statutes is repealed and the
274 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

275 (a) Upon the presentation to the town clerk or either registrar of
276 voters of any town of the signed application of twenty-five or more
277 persons who are employed by the same employer at the same place of
278 employment in such town, or twenty-five or more persons who attend
279 the same school, college or university which is located in such town, or
280 who reside at the same hospital, residential care home, rest home,
281 nursing home or convalescent home located in such town and who

282 believe that they possess the qualifications for admission as electors,
283 which application may be made at any time except during the period
284 between [seven days before the last session for the admission of
285 electors] twenty-one days prior to an election and the day following
286 such election, and shall be in form substantially as provided in section
287 9-19d; an admitting official, within the time hereinafter specified, shall
288 go to such place of employment, school, college, or university or
289 hospital, residential care home, rest home, nursing home or
290 convalescent home for the purpose of taking and acting upon
291 applications for admission as electors of any persons who reside in any
292 Connecticut town and who are authorized to be on the premises. No
293 application need be accepted by such town clerk or registrars from
294 persons working at any such place of employment, attending any such
295 school, college or university or residing at any such hospital,
296 residential care home, rest home, nursing home or convalescent home
297 if a session for the admission of electors has been held on such
298 premises within one hundred twenty days prior to the making of such
299 petition. Such official to whom such application is presented shall,
300 within seven days after the receipt of such application, inform each
301 registrar of voters and the employer, or chief administrative officer of
302 the school, college or university or hospital, residential care home, rest
303 home, nursing home or convalescent home of the date and time at
304 which he will go to such place for such purpose, which date shall be
305 not less than seven days nor more than ten days after the sending of
306 the notice by such official to such employer or chief administrative
307 officer, except that no session shall be held after the [last session for
308 admission of electors] fourteenth day prior to an election. The official
309 with whom the application is filed may request any other admitting
310 official to go in his stead.

311 (b) Such employer, or chief administrative officer, upon receipt of
312 such notice, shall provide a suitable place for the taking of applications
313 for admission as electors and shall forthwith cause a prominent notice
314 to be posted on the bulletin board or other place where general notices
315 to employees, students or residents are customarily posted, which
316 notice shall specify the date, place and hour at which such official will

317 receive such applications, and such notice shall remain posted through
318 the day of such taking of applications. Procedures under this section
319 shall conform as nearly as may be to the procedures for applications
320 for admission submitted pursuant to sections 9-19b, [9-19e,] 9-20, as
321 amended by this act, and 9-23a. No employer shall penalize or refuse
322 to pay an employee who proceeds under this section and section 9-19d,
323 and any employee proceeding under said sections shall be entitled to
324 be paid at his regular rate for up to one-half hour for the purpose of
325 making application to become an elector.

326 Sec. 8. Subsection (a) of section 9-23g of the general statutes is
327 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
328 *passage*):

329 (a) In addition to the procedures for admission of electors under
330 sections 9-19b, as amended by this act, 9-19c, as amended by this act,
331 [9-19e,] 9-20 and 9-31, any person may apply to a registrar of voters of
332 the town of his residence for admission as an elector in accordance
333 with the provisions of this section and section 9-23h.

334 Sec. 9. Subsection (b) of section 9-23g of the general statutes is
335 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
336 *passage*):

337 (b) The Secretary of the State shall prescribe, and provide to
338 registrars of voters, town clerks and voter registration agencies, as
339 defined in section 9-23n, application forms and other materials
340 necessary to complete such application and admission process. The
341 Secretary of the State, registrars of voters and town clerks shall provide
342 a reasonable number of such forms and materials to any elector who
343 requests such forms and materials. The secretary shall also, in the
344 course of the secretary's elections duties, prepare instructions and
345 related materials describing procedures for such application and
346 admission process and shall provide the materials to registrars of
347 voters and town clerks. The application shall contain the information
348 required under section 9-23h. All statements of the applicant shall be
349 made under the penalties of perjury. The application for admission as

350 an elector shall include a statement that (1) specifies each eligibility
351 requirement, (2) contains an attestation that the application meets each
352 such requirement, and (3) requires the signature of the applicant under
353 penalty of perjury. Nothing in this section or section 9-23h shall
354 require that the application be executed in the state. An applicant who
355 is unable to write may cause the applicant's name to be signed on the
356 application form by an authorized agent who shall, in the space
357 provided for the signature, write the name of the applicant followed
358 by the word "by" and the agent's own signature. The completed
359 application may be mailed or returned in person to the office of the
360 registrars of voters or the office of the town clerk of the applicant's
361 town of residence or a voter registration agency. If the applicant
362 entrusts the applicant's application to another person or to such a voter
363 registration agency for mailing or return to the registrars of voters,
364 such person or agency shall immediately mail or return the
365 application. Any such person who returns the application for the
366 applicant between the twenty-eighth day and the fourteenth day,
367 inclusive, before an election shall print such person's name, residential
368 address and telephone number and sign a statement indicating that
369 such person is returning the application for the applicant. Any such
370 voter registration agency shall also provide the applicant with an
371 application receipt, on which the agency shall record the date that the
372 agency received the application, using an official date stamp bearing
373 the name of the agency. The agency shall provide such receipt whether
374 the application was submitted in person or by mail. The town clerk
375 shall promptly forward any application which the town clerk receives
376 to the registrars of voters. Such application form shall be provided by
377 or authorized by the Secretary of the State.

378 Sec. 10. Subdivision (4) of subsection (d) of section 9-23g of the
379 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
380 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

381 (4) If on the day of an election or primary, the name of an applicant
382 does not appear on the official check list, such applicant may present
383 to the moderator at the polls either a notice of acceptance received

384 through the mail or an application receipt that was previously
385 provided to the applicant pursuant to [section 9-19e,] subsection (b) of
386 section 9-19h, subsection (b) of this section or section 9-23n. If an
387 applicant presents said notice or receipt, and either the registrars of
388 voters find the original application or the applicant submits a new
389 application at the polls, the registrar, or assistant registrar upon notice
390 to and approval by the registrar, shall add such person's name and
391 address to the official check list on such day and the person shall be
392 allowed to vote if otherwise eligible to vote and the person presents to
393 the checkers at the polling place a preprinted form of identification
394 pursuant to subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of
395 section 9-261.

396 Sec. 11. Section 9-31a of the general statutes is repealed and the
397 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

398 (a) As used in this section and section 9-31b, "permanently
399 physically disabled person" means a person who, by reason of a major
400 defect or infirmity of body, whether congenital or acquired by
401 accident, injury or disease, is permanently physically incapacitated to a
402 degree that prevents him and will continue to prevent him from
403 appearing in person at the office of the town clerk or registrars of the
404 town where he temporarily or permanently resides.

405 (b) Any permanently physically disabled person may, in the manner
406 prescribed under this section and upon a form as prescribed under
407 section 9-31b, apply to the town clerk or either registrar of voters of
408 such town for examination and admission as an elector of any
409 Connecticut town. (1) In the case of a permanently physically disabled
410 person whose qualifications as to age, citizenship or residence in such
411 town are attained on or before the [last session for admission of
412 electors] fourteenth day prior to an election to be held in the town, the
413 application shall be submitted so that it will be received by such town
414 clerk or either registrar of voters not later than such [last session] day.
415 Upon receipt of the application, [the town clerk or] either registrar of
416 voters shall notify the applicant of the day, and the hour, such day to

417 be within ten days of the receipt of the application, at which an
418 admitting official shall meet with the applicant at the temporary or
419 permanent residence of the applicant. (2) In the case of a permanently
420 physically disabled person whose qualifications as to age, citizenship
421 or residence in such town are attained after the [last session for
422 admission of electors] fourteenth day prior to an election to be held in
423 the town, the application shall be submitted so that it will be received
424 by such town clerk or either registrar of voters. [not later than the
425 opening of the limited session for the admission of electors held, under
426 section 9-17, on the last weekday prior to the election.] Upon receipt of
427 [the] any such application by the town clerk, the town clerk [or] shall
428 immediately transmit the application to either registrar of voters.
429 Upon receipt of any such application by either registrar of voters from
430 the applicant or the town clerk, such registrar shall notify the applicant
431 of the day, and the hour, [such day and hour to be not later than 5:00
432 p.m. on the last weekday before the election,] at which an admitting
433 official shall meet with the applicant at the temporary or permanent
434 residence of the applicant.

435 (c) Such admitting official shall meet at the appointed time with the
436 applicant for the purpose of examining his qualifications as an elector
437 and for the purpose of admitting him as an elector if the applicant is
438 found qualified. Such official shall make available to the applicant at
439 such time, upon request, a copy of the statement that specifies each
440 eligibility requirement and contains an attestation that the applicant
441 meets each such requirement (1) in video form in accordance with
442 procedures established by the registrars of voters, and (2) in braille,
443 large print and audio form. Such official shall provide the applicant
444 with a written notice of approval or disapproval at that time. [, except
445 as otherwise provided in section 9-19e.] Any person making
446 application for registration under this section shall be entitled to the
447 privileges of an elector and party enrollment, if applicable, from the
448 time such application for admission as an elector is approved by the
449 town clerk or registrars of voters of his voting residence.

450 Sec. 12. Section 9-35b of the general statutes is repealed and the

451 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

452 Except during the period between the [last session for the admission
453 of electors] thirteenth day prior to an election and the day [following
454 that] of the election, inclusive, any elector of any municipality who
455 desires to relinquish his rights as an elector and to have his name
456 erased from the registry list shall make a signed written request to the
457 registrars of voters of such municipality. Upon receipt of such
458 application, the registrars shall remove the elector's name from the
459 registry list and any enrollment list. Any person whose name has been
460 removed from the registry list pursuant to this section may reapply for
461 admission as an elector at any time, without prejudice on account of
462 such removal. In the event such person is admitted as an elector, the
463 registrar of the municipality shall notify the registrars of the
464 municipality where such person resided at the time of his
465 relinquishment that his electoral privileges have been restored.

466 Sec. 13. Section 9-38 of the general statutes is repealed and the
467 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

468 The registrars of all towns shall [, on the second Friday preceding a
469 regular election,] deposit in the town clerk's office the final registry list
470 arranged as provided in section 9-35 and certified by them to be
471 correct, and shall retain a sufficient number of copies to be used by
472 them at such election for the purpose of checking the names of those
473 who vote. They shall place on such final list, in the order provided in
474 section 9-35, the names of all persons who have been admitted as
475 electors. In each municipality said registrars shall also cause to be
476 prepared and printed and deposited in the town clerk's office a
477 supplementary or updated list containing the names and addresses of
478 electors to be transferred, restored or added to such list [prior to the
479 sixth day before] not later than the day after such election. [, provided
480 in municipalities having a population of less than twenty-five
481 thousand, such additional names may be inserted in writing in such
482 final list.] Such final registry list and supplementary or updated list
483 deposited in the town clerk's office shall be on file in such office for

484 public inspection for a period of two years, and any elector may make
485 copies thereof.

486 Sec. 14. Section 9-39 of the general statutes is repealed and the
487 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

488 [The] During the fourteen-day period before a regular election, the
489 registrars of each municipality shall print copies of the final registry
490 list for distribution in such municipality and in all the voting districts,
491 [located therein, provided nothing in sections 9-12 to 9-45, inclusive,
492 shall require the printing of more than one final registry list for any
493 voting district in any one year.] With each printing such registrars
494 shall retain at least two copies of such lists and such copies shall be
495 available for public use in the office of the registrars for a period of two
496 years. The registrars shall, upon request, give to a candidate for
497 election to the General Assembly a copy of the final registry list for
498 each voting district included in the General Assembly district for
499 which such person is a candidate.

500 Sec. 15. Subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 9-7b of the
501 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
502 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

503 (2) To levy a civil penalty not to exceed (A) two thousand dollars
504 per offense against any person the commission finds to be in violation
505 of any provision of chapter 145, part V of chapter 146, part I of chapter
506 147, chapter 148, section 9-12, subsection (a) of section 9-17, as
507 amended by this act, section 9-19b, as amended by this act, [9-19e, 9-
508 19g,] 9-19h, 9-19i, 9-20, as amended by this act, 9-21, 9-23a, 9-23g, as
509 amended by this act, 9-23h, 9-23j to 9-23o, inclusive, as amended by
510 this act, 9-26, 9-31a, as amended by this act, 9-32, 9-35, 9-35b, as
511 amended by this act, 9-35c, 9-40a, 9-42, 9-43, 9-50a, 9-56, 9-59, as
512 amended by this act, 9-168d, 9-170, 9-171, 9-172, 9-409, 9-410, 9-412, 9-
513 436, 9-436a, 9-453e to 9-453h, inclusive, 9-453k or 9-453o, or (B) two
514 thousand dollars per offense or twice the amount of any improper
515 payment or contribution, whichever is greater, against any person the
516 commission finds to be in violation of any provision of chapter 150.

517 The commission may levy a civil penalty against any person under
518 subparagraph (A) or (B) of this subdivision only after giving the
519 person an opportunity to be heard at a hearing conducted in
520 accordance with sections 4-176e to 4-184, inclusive. In the case of
521 failure to pay any such penalty levied pursuant to this subsection
522 within thirty days of written notice sent by certified or registered mail
523 to such person, the superior court for the judicial district of Hartford,
524 on application of the commission, may issue an order requiring such
525 person to pay the penalty imposed and such court costs, state
526 marshal's fees and attorney's fees incurred by the commission as the
527 court may determine. Any civil penalties paid, collected or recovered
528 under subparagraph (B) of this subdivision for a violation of any
529 provision of chapter 150 applying to the office of the Treasurer shall be
530 deposited on a pro rata basis in any trust funds, as defined in section 3-
531 13c, affected by such violation.

532 Sec. 16. Subdivision (10) of subsection (a) of section 9-7b of the
533 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
534 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

535 (10) To consult with the United States Department of Justice and the
536 United States Attorney for Connecticut on any investigation pertaining
537 to a violation of this section, section 9-12, subsection (a) of section 9-17,
538 as amended by this act, or section 9-19b, as amended by this act, [9-19e,
539 9-19h, 9-19i, 9-20, as amended by this act, 9-21, 9-23a, 9-23g, as
540 amended by this act, 9-23h, 9-23j to 9-23o, inclusive, 9-26, 9-31a, as
541 amended by this act, 9-32, 9-35, 9-35b, as amended by this act, 9-35c, 9-
542 40a, 9-42, 9-43, 9-50a, 9-56 or 9-59, as amended by this act, and to refer
543 to said department and attorney evidence bearing upon any such
544 violation for prosecution under the provisions of the National Voter
545 Registration Act of 1993, P.L. 103-31, as amended from time to time.

546 Sec. 17. Subsection (b) of section 9-20 of the general statutes is
547 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
548 *passage*):

549 (b) The applicant's statement shall be delivered to the registrars

550 immediately and shall be kept by the registrars as a public record in a
551 safe depository, except that no Social Security number obtained by the
552 registrars prior to January 1, 2000, may be disclosed to the public or to
553 any governmental agency. Any such statement of an elector whose
554 name has been removed from the registry list for a period of at least
555 five years may be placed on microfilm, destroyed or otherwise
556 disposed of by such registrars, in the manner provided in section 7-
557 109. Upon the request of any elector, or if the applicant does not
558 present a birth certificate, drivers' license or Social Security card as
559 required by subsection (a) of this section, at the time an application is
560 made in person to an admitting official or prior to the approval of such
561 an application, any admitting official shall require the applicant to
562 prove his identity, place of birth, age and bona fide residence by the
563 testimony under oath of at least one elector or by the presentation of
564 proof satisfactory to such admitting official. Each person found
565 qualified shall thereupon be admitted as an elector, except as provided
566 in sections 9-12 [, 9-19e, 9-19g] and 9-30. The registrars may request an
567 elector whose date of birth is missing from their records to voluntarily
568 furnish his date of birth. Any admitting official may administer oaths
569 in any matter coming before him under section 9-12, 9-17, as amended
570 by this act, 9-19b, as amended by this act, subsection (a) of section 9-
571 19c, as amended by this act, section [9-19e, 9-19g,] 9-23, 9-23a, 9-25, 9-
572 31a, as amended by this act, 9-31b, 9-31l, 9-40a or this section. Said
573 admitting official shall prohibit any activity which interferes with the
574 orderly process of admission of electors.

575 Sec. 18. Section 9-23j of the general statutes is repealed and the
576 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

577 As used in sections 9-7b, as amended by this act, and 9-12,
578 subsection (a) of section 9-17, as amended by this act, sections 9-19b,
579 as amended by this act, [9-19e, 9-19g,] 9-19h, 9-19i, 9-20, as amended by
580 this act, 9-21, 9-23a, 9-23g, as amended by this act, 9-23h, 9-23k to 9-
581 23o, inclusive, as amended by this act, 9-26, 9-31a, as amended by this
582 act, 9-32, 9-35, 9-35b, as amended by this act, 9-35c, 9-40a, 9-42, 9-43, 9-
583 50a, 9-56 and 9-59, as amended by this act, "public assistance offices"

584 means offices of state agencies that administer or provide services
585 under the food stamp, Medicaid, Women, Infants and Children, and
586 temporary family assistance programs.

587 Sec. 19. Section 9-23k of the general statutes is repealed and the
588 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

589 The Secretary of the State shall be the chief state election official
590 responsible for coordination of state responsibilities under the
591 National Voter Registration Act of 1993, P.L. 103-31, as amended from
592 time to time, except that the State Elections Enforcement Commission
593 shall be responsible for the investigation of any complaint alleging a
594 violation of sections 9-7b, as amended by this act, and 9-12, subsection
595 (a) of section 9-17, as amended by this act, sections 9-19b, as amended
596 by this act, [9-19e, 9-19g,] 9-19h, 9-19i, 9-20, as amended by this act, 9-
597 21, 9-23a, 9-23g, as amended by this act, 9-23h, 9-23j to 9-23o, inclusive,
598 as amended by this act, 9-26, 9-31a, as amended by this act, 9-32, 9-35,
599 9-35b, as amended by this act, 9-35c, 9-40a, 9-42, 9-43, 9-50a, 9-56 and 9-
600 59, as amended by this act, and shall have the authority to enforce the
601 provisions of said sections by use of its powers as prescribed in section
602 9-7b, as amended by this act.

603 Sec. 20. Section 9-59 of the general statutes is repealed and the
604 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

605 Any elector whose name appears on any enrollment list or who has
606 made application for enrollment may, at any time, make a written
607 application, on an application form for admission as an elector, which
608 shall be signed by such elector, to either registrar for erasure of his
609 name from such list or for transfer of his name to the enrollment list of
610 another party. If an elector makes an application for erasure, his name
611 shall be erased from said enrollment list and, if a municipality is
612 having a primary in which unaffiliated electors are authorized to vote,
613 under section 9-431, such elector's name shall be placed on the list of
614 unaffiliated electors together with the date he is eligible to vote in a
615 primary. If an elector makes an application for transfer, his name shall
616 be transferred to the enrollment list of another party, together with the

617 effective date of such transfer. Any elector whose name has been
618 transferred from one enrollment list to another or who has applied for
619 erasure or transfer of his name from an enrollment list shall not be
620 entitled to vote in a caucus or primary of any party or be entitled to the
621 privileges accompanying enrollment in any party for a period of three
622 months from the date of the filing of his application for transfer or for
623 erasure. Any elector who removes his name from the registry list and
624 from an enrollment list in accordance with the provisions of section 9-
625 35b shall not be entitled to enroll in any political party or vote in any
626 primary for three months after such removal. The registrars of voters
627 shall state, on the notice of acceptance sent under sections 9-23g, as
628 amended by this act, and 9-19b, as amended by this act, [and 9-19e,]
629 the date enrollment privileges take effect, if delayed.

630 Sec. 21. Section 9-158a of the general statutes is repealed and the
631 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

632 As used in sections 9-139c, 9-140b, 9-158a to 9-158m, inclusive, and
633 9-307:

634 (1) "Federal election" means any general or special election or any
635 primary held solely or in part for the purpose of selecting, nominating
636 or electing any candidate for the office of President, Vice President,
637 presidential elector, member of the United States Senate or member of
638 the United States House of Representatives;

639 (2) "Former resident" means a person who was a bona fide resident
640 of a town in this state and who has [removed] moved from that town
641 to another state less than thirty days before the day of a presidential
642 election and who for that reason is unable to register to vote in the
643 election in [his] said person's present [town or] state of residence;

644 (3) "Overseas elector" means any person permitted to vote pursuant
645 to subsection (b) of section 9-158b;

646 (4) "Presidential election" means an election at which electors of
647 President and Vice-President are elected;

648 (5) "Resident" means a bona fide resident of a town in this state;

649 (6) "State" includes any of the several states, the District of
650 Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam and the Virgin
651 Islands; and

652 (7) "United States" includes the several states, the District of
653 Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam and the Virgin
654 Islands, but does not include American Samoa, The Canal Zone, the
655 trust territory of the Pacific Islands or any other territory or possession
656 of the United States.

657 Sec. 22. Subsection (a) of section 9-158b of the general statutes is
658 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
659 *passage*):

660 (a) Each citizen of the United States who is at least eighteen years of
661 age, is a [resident or] former resident and [who] has not forfeited [his]
662 said citizen's electoral privileges because of a disfranchising crime,
663 may vote for presidential and vice-presidential electors, but for no
664 other offices, in the town in this state in which [he resides, or] said
665 citizen formerly resided in the manner provided in sections 9-158c to 9-
666 158m, inclusive, as amended by this act.

667 Sec. 23. Subsection (a) of section 9-158c of the general statutes is
668 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
669 *passage*):

670 (a) Not earlier than forty-five days before the election and not later
671 than the close of the polls on election day, each [resident, or] former
672 resident who desires to vote in a presidential election under sections 9-
673 158a to 9-158m, inclusive, as amended by this act, may apply for a
674 "presidential ballot" to the municipal clerk of the town in which [he]
675 said former resident is qualified to vote on the form prescribed in
676 section 9-158d, as amended by this act. Application for a "presidential
677 ballot" may be made in person or absentee, in the manner provided for
678 applying for an absentee ballot under section 9-140, except as provided

679 in said sections 9-158a to 9-158m, inclusive, as amended by this act.

680 Sec. 24. Subsection (a) of section 9-158d of the general statutes is
681 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
682 *passage*):

683 (a) The application for a presidential ballot shall be a form signed in
684 duplicate by the applicant under penalty of false statement in absentee
685 balloting, which shall provide substantially as follows:

686 To the Town Clerk of the Town of Connecticut

687 I, the undersigned, declare under penalty of false statement in
688 absentee balloting that the following statements are true:

689 1. I am a citizen of the United States.

690 2. I have not forfeited my electoral privileges because of conviction
691 of a disfranchising crime.

692 3. I was born on, and on the day of the next presidential election,
693 I shall be at least 18 years of age. [Check and complete 4 or 5,
694 whichever applies:]

695 [4. RESIDENT. I am a bona fide resident of the above town, to
696 which I am making this application, and I reside at Street. I moved
697 to said town on the day of, 20... Before becoming a resident of
698 said town, I resided at Street, in the Town of County of, State
699 of]

700 [5.] 4. FORMER RESIDENT. I am a former resident of the above
701 town, to which I am making this application, and resided at Street
702 therein. I moved from such town to my present town of residence on
703 the day of, 20.., being within thirty days before the date of the
704 next presidential election, and for that reason I cannot register to vote
705 in said presidential election in my present town of residence. I am now
706 a bona fide resident of the Town of, in the state of, now residing
707 at Street therein.

708 [6.] 5. I hereby apply for a "presidential ballot" for the election to be
709 held on ..., 20... I have not voted and will not vote otherwise than by
710 this ballot at that election. I am not eligible to vote for electors of
711 President and Vice-President [in any other town in Connecticut or] in
712 any other state.

713 [7.] 6. The said ballot is to be given to me personally mailed to me at
714 (bona fide mailing address)

715 Dated at ..., this ... day of ... 20...

716 (Signature of applicant)

717 Sec. 25. Subsection (a) of section 9-158e of the general statutes is
718 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
719 *passage*):

720 (a) Upon receipt of an application for a presidential ballot under
721 sections 9-158a to 9-158m, inclusive, as amended by this act, the clerk,
722 if satisfied that the application is proper and that the applicant is
723 qualified to vote under said sections, shall forthwith give or mail to the
724 applicant, as the case may be, a ballot for presidential and vice-
725 presidential electors for use at the election and instructions and
726 envelopes for its return. At such time the clerks shall also mail a
727 duplicate of the application to the appropriate official of [(1) the state
728 or the town in this state in which the applicant last resided in the case
729 of an applicant who is a resident, or (2)] the state [or the town in this
730 state] in which the applicant now resides. [in the case of an applicant
731 who is a former resident.]

732 Sec. 26. Section 9-158j of the general statutes is repealed and the
733 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

734 Upon receipt of an application for a "Presidential Ballot" or
735 "Overseas Ballot" the town clerk shall forthwith notify the registrars of
736 voters of the applicant's name, with a notation designating [him] the
737 applicant as a person voting for presidential and vice-presidential

738 electors or federal offices only. If the name of a presidential voter [who
739 is a former resident] appears on the registry list, the registrars shall
740 insert the letters "pf" in the margin preceding [his] the voter's name.
741 The registrars shall prepare a list of names and addresses of
742 presidential voters and overseas electors whose names do not appear
743 on the registry list, for each voting district, which list shall accompany
744 the check list to be used at such election in such district. The registrars
745 shall insert the letters "pf" in the margin of such list of presidential
746 voters preceding the name of each applicant, [who is a former
747 resident.]

748 Sec. 27. Section 9-158k of the general statutes is repealed and the
749 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

750 The municipal clerk shall file each duplicate application or other
751 official information received by [him] such clerk from another state, [or
752 from another town in this state,] indicating that a person who formerly
753 resided [or presently resides] in such town has made application to
754 vote at a presidential election in such other state, [or town,] and shall
755 maintain an alphabetical index of such information for a period of one
756 hundred eighty days after the election. The clerk shall compare each
757 such application or statement of information with applications made
758 under the provisions of sections 9-158a to 9-158m, inclusive, as
759 amended by this act, and, after the election, with the names checked
760 off as having voted on the check list for the election, to ascertain that
761 any such person has not voted more than once. Whenever the record
762 indicates that any person has applied for a presidential ballot and
763 indicated in [his] such person's application that [he] such person is
764 applying as a former resident, and there is record evidence that such
765 person has applied in another state [or town] as a new resident, the
766 applicant's ballot shall not be cast in [his] such person's former town of
767 residence.

768 Sec. 28. Section 9-23a of the general statutes is repealed and the
769 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

770 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section and section 3

771 of this act, no person admitted as an elector after twelve o'clock noon
772 on the last business day before a primary shall be permitted to vote in
773 such primary.

774 (b) An applicant for admission or enrollment under section 9-26
775 shall be entitled to vote in a primary if he files his application for
776 admission or enrollment with the town clerk before the day of the
777 primary and is otherwise eligible to vote in the primary.

778 Sec. 29. (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than February 1, 2004,
779 the Secretary of the State, in consultation with the State Elections
780 Enforcement Commission and registrars of voters, shall submit a
781 report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general
782 statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
783 having cognizance of matters relating to elections on the
784 implementation of the provisions of section 9-1, subdivisions (2) and
785 (10) of subsection (a) of section 9-7b, sections 9-17, 9-19b, 9-19c,
786 subsection (b) of section 9-20, section 9-23a, subsections (a), (b) and (d)
787 of section 9-23g, sections 9-23j, 9-23k, 9-31a, 9-35b, 9-38, 9-39, 9-59, 9-
788 158a, subsection (a) of section 9-158b, subsection (a) of section 9-158c,
789 subsection (a) of section 9-158d, subsection (a) of section 9-158e and
790 sections 9-158j and 9-158k of the general statutes, as amended by this
791 act, and sections 2 to 4, inclusive, of this act.

792 (b) Said report shall include, but not be limited to: (1) A review and
793 assessment of said sections with regard to the elections held in
794 November, 2003, including (A) the implementation of the new voter
795 identification requirements, (B) the experience of voters and election
796 officials at polling places and voter registration sites, the length of the
797 lines at polling places and voter registration sites and the ability of
798 registrars of voters, moderators and election officials to implement the
799 new voter registration procedures, (C) a summary of the number of
800 voters participating in the elections, the number of individuals
801 utilizing the election day registration option, and the number of people
802 experiencing delays or difficulty in complying with new voter
803 identification procedures, and (D) other issues pertinent to the conduct

804 of the elections, and (2) recommendations for administrative changes
805 or amendments to said sections to address issues raised by the report.

806 (c) Not later than December 31, 2003, registrars of voters shall
807 submit to the Secretary of the State any information required by the
808 Secretary for the completion of the report in accordance with
809 subsection (a) of this section.

810 Sec. 30. (*Effective from passage*) Sections 9-19e and 9-19g of the
811 general statutes are repealed.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 8	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 10	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 11	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 12	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 13	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 14	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 15	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 16	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 17	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 18	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 19	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 20	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 21	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 22	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 23	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 24	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 25	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 26	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 27	<i>from passage</i>

Sec. 28	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 29	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 30	<i>from passage</i>

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

Section 28 was added for statutory consistency.

GAE *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Type	FY 03 \$	FY 04 \$
Secretary of the State	GF - Cost	None	None
Elect. Enforcement Com.	GF - Cost	None	None

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 03 \$	FY 04 \$
All Municipalities	STATE MANDATE - Cost	Minimal	Minimal

Explanation

This bill allows people to register to vote in the registrars of voters' office on the day of an election, or primary, and during the second week before an election. The bill requires the Secretary of the State (SOTS) and the State Elections Enforcement Commission (SEEC) to submit a report to the Government Administration and Elections Committee on the implementation of the new voter identification requirements, and the experience of voters and election officials at polling places and voter registration sites. The bill also requires the SOTS to train registrars and poll workers on the new registration procedures.

This bill will result in an increased workload for the SOTS and SEEC, which will not require additional funding.

Municipal Impact:

This bill will result in a cost to municipalities. Municipalities will have to hire additional part-time or temporary personnel to handle

those people who register to vote on election day. Municipalities will also incur costs to purchase instant cameras and film to take photographs of those voter registration applicants not possessing photo identification.

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6371

AN ACT CONCERNING ELECTION DAY AND EXTENDED VOTER REGISTRATION**SUMMARY:**

This bill allows people to register to vote in the registrars of voters' office on the day of an election, primary, or presidential preference primary and during the second week before an election. The current deadlines for registering to vote and being able to vote in the subsequent election or primary are 14 days before an election and the last business day before a primary. The bill establishes procedures applicants and registrars must follow during the additional registration periods. The bill also:

1. eliminates the use of presidential ballots for people who live within the state;
2. requires the secretary of the state and the registrars' association to train registrars and poll workers in the new procedures;
3. requires the secretary, in consultation with the State Elections Enforcement Commission (SEEC), to report to the Government Administration and Elections (GAE) Committee on the bill's implementation;
4. repeals the provision that allows people to register in any Connecticut town and have the application forwarded to the town where they live; and
5. makes other minor changes to the voter registration laws to conform with the election day and extended registration provisions.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

EXTENDED AND ELECTION DAY REGISTRATION***Election Day***

The bill requires registrars of voters to conduct a voter registration session in their office on the day of a state, district, or municipal election or primary and a presidential preference primary. The

applicant must show the registrars identification with his name and address and photograph. If the ID has no photograph, the registrars must take one. The applicant must also sign a statement swearing or affirming that he meets the eligibility requirements to register. The statement includes a notice of the penalty for signing a false statement (a perjury conviction and five years in prison, a fine up to \$5,000, or both). If the registrars admit an applicant who registers on election day, they (1) give the person a notice of acceptance (as prescribed by the secretary), (2) attach a copy of the ID including the photo, and (3) seal and sign the notice. The person can go to his polling place, present the notice and copies, and vote. At the polling place, the assistant registrar adds the person's name to the supplementary list with the notation "ED."

The registrars must keep a copy of the identification (including the photograph) with the registration card until they are satisfied that the post office has delivered the applicant's confirmation notice. If the registrars cannot validate the application, they must put the person's name on the inactive registry list and notify the SEEC.

Two Weeks Before An Election

During the period between the 13th and 7th days before an election, registrars must publicize and conduct voter registration sessions in their office. Anyone applying to register during this period must show a preprinted form of identification that has his name and address. If the identification does not include a photograph, the registrars must take one. For applicants they admit, the registrars must keep a copy of the identification (including the photograph) with the registration card until they are satisfied that the post office has delivered the applicant's confirmation notice.

PRESIDENTIAL BALLOTS

The bill removes the provision for Connecticut residents to vote by presidential ballot, leaving the procedures in place only for former state residents (see BACKGROUND). A former state resident who moved to another state after the deadline to register in that state has passed can apply for a presidential ballot and vote for presidential and vice-presidential electors, but no other offices. The application and voting procedures remain the same as under current law.

TRAINING

The bill requires the secretary of the state, in cooperation with the Registrars of Voters Association of Connecticut, to train people who will train the state's registrars in the registration procedures. In turn, the registrars must train deputy and assistant registrars and other poll workers.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The bill requires the secretary of the state, in consultation with SEEC and registrars, to report to the GAE Committee by February 1, 2004 on its implementation. By December 31, 2003, the registrars must submit information the secretary requests for her report. She must review and assess the program for the November 2003 municipal elections, and report on the new identification requirements; voters' and election officials' experiences with the procedures, including the length of lines at registrars' offices and polling places; the numbers of people who voted, those who registered on election day, and those who experienced difficulties with the new procedures; other issues and recommendations for changes to the procedures or the statutes.

MINOR CHANGES

Anyone who returns a mail-in application form between the 28th and 14th days before an election on behalf of an applicant must sign a statement with his printed name, address, and telephone number indicating that he is returning the form for the applicant. Fourteen days before an election remains the deadline for submitting a mail-in registration application.

The bill requires towns with populations under 25,000, which are currently exempt, to (1) hold voter registration sessions on the 14th day before an election and (2) produce a supplementary or updated registry list, rather than add names by hand to the final registry list. The bill removes the deadline registrars had for depositing the final registry list in the town clerk's office, which was the second Friday before a regular election.

BACKGROUND

Presidential Ballots

The federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (42 USC § 1973aa-1) requires states to provide by law for those otherwise qualified to vote who fail to meet a residency requirement to vote in an election for U.S. president and vice-president. A person who has moved after the deadline for voter registration in his new residence must be allowed to vote for president and vice-president in the state or town where he lived prior to moving.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 18 Nay 0